

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

## Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Awareness Day

**WHEREAS**, 600,000 to 1,000,000 persons in the United States are projected to have Lynch Syndrome, however less than 10% are currently diagnosed; and

WHEREAS, Lynch Syndrome creates a hereditary predisposition to a litany of cancers at a high lifetime risk and often at an early age; and

WHEREAS, assessment of family medical history of cancers and universal testing of colorectal and uterine tumors for characteristics of Lynch Syndrome may prompt genetic testing; and

WHEREAS, a positive genetic test will determine if these cancers are hereditary or familial, and qualify affected individuals for regular cancer screening tests for growths, polyps and tumors which may be detected early and treated or removed before becoming life threatening cancers; and

WHEREAS, many families in Rhode Island will be protected and lives saved as a result of a greater awareness and diagnosis of Lynch Syndrome and/or other hereditary and familial cancers; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim March 22, 2013 as Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Awareness Day and encourage all residents to recognize the importance of this day.

A. Ralph Mollis Secretary of State Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 4th day of March, 2013

Lincoln D. Chafe Governor